

could not provide the medical services to avoid this consequence.

Mr. President, this issue is a question of trust. Do you trust politicians to make complicated medical decisions affecting women's lives? Or do you trust medical experts consulting with families? This bill says: politicians know best. I say: let's trust the doctors and the families.

Mr. President, let me say that I know there are many Americans who feel very strongly about the issue of abortion. It's a deeply personal and emotional issue, on both sides. I have the greatest respect for many of our citizens who hold different views on this matter. But I would not try to intrude on these complicated decisions, or tell a woman focusing on serious health or fertility risks how to make this difficult decision.

Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to oppose this intrusion into the doctor-patient relationship. Let's give families, not politicians, the right the choose.

Mr. President, during this debate some Members supporting this measure have been citing statistics that appeared in a recent Bergen Record article on late term abortions. I ask unanimous consent to insert a letter from Metropolitan Medical Associates of Englewood, NJ, that directly refutes the accuracy of those figures.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

There being no objection, the letter was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

METROPOLITAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATES,  
Englewood, NJ, September 23, 1996.

Mr. GLENN RITT,  
Editor, *The Record, Hackensack, NJ.*

DEAR MR. RITT, We, the physicians and administration of Metropolitan Medical Associates, are deeply concerned about the many inaccuracies in the article printed in September 15, 1996 titled "The Facts on Partial-Birth Abortions".

The article incorrectly asserts that MMA "performs 3,000 abortions a year on fetuses between 20 and 24 weeks, of which at least half are by intact dilation and evacuation." This claim is false as is shown in reports to the New Jersey Department of Health and documents submitted semiannually to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners. These statistics show that the total annual number of abortions for the period between 12 and 23.3 weeks is about 4,000, with the majority of these procedures being between 12 and 16 weeks. The intact D&E procedure (erroneously labeled by abortion opponents as "partial birth abortion") is used only in a small percentage of cases between 20 and 23.3 weeks, when a physician determines that it is the safest method available for the woman involved. Certainly, the number of intact D&E procedures performed is nowhere near the 1,500 estimated in your article. MMA perform no third trimester abortions, where the State is permitted to ban abortions except in cases of life and health endangerment.

Second, the article erroneously states that most women undergoing intact D&E procedures have no medical reason for termination. The article then misquotes a physician from our clinic stating that "most are Medicaid patients \* \* \* and most are for elective, not medical, reasons \* \* \* Most are

teenagers." This is a misrepresentation of the information provided to the reporter. Consistent with *Roe v. Wade* and New Jersey State law, we do not record a woman's specific reason for having an abortion. However, all procedures for our Medicaid patients are certified as medically necessary as required by the New Jersey Department of Human Services.

Because of the sensitive and controversial nature of the abortion issue, we feel that it is critically important to set the record straight.

The Management of Metropolitan Medical Associates.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California is recognized.

Mrs. BOXER. Thank you, Mr. President. The Senator from New Jersey has spoken, as he always does, with intelligence and with compassion. He is the proudest grandfather I have ever met. A close second is my husband.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. You haven't seen my grandchildren.

Mrs. BOXER. And I say to my friend, his participation in this debate is welcome. It is a welcome part of this debate, because he went through the trauma that these women have gone through, as far as being in a family where such a circumstance occurred.

I say to my colleague from Pennsylvania who stands up and asks the same question, he got his answer. All of us on this side who support the President oppose late-term abortion. We could pass a bill that would ban this procedure but for life and health. I ask him again to do that. Clearly, he prefers this bill with no real exceptions.

I thank the President for his forbearance, and we will continue this debate after the lunch break.

## RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to a previous unanimous-consent agreement, the Senate will now stand in recess until 1:30 p.m.

Thereupon, at 12:34 p.m., the Senate recessed until 1:29 p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. GRAMM).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, in my capacity as a Senator from the State of Texas, suggests the absence of a quorum. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GLENN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COVERDELL). Without objection, it is so ordered.

## MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business.

## OCTOBER 1996 QUARTERLY REPORTS

The mailing and filing date of the October quarterly report required by the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended, is Tuesday, October 15, 1996. All principal campaign committees supporting Senate candidates in the 1996 races must file their reports with the Senate Office of Public Records, 232 Hart Building, Washington, DC 20510-7116. Senators may wish to advise their campaign committee personnel of this requirement.

The Public Records Office will be open from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. on October 15, to receive these filings. For further information, please contact the Office of Public Records on (202) 224-0322.

## TWELVE-DAY PRE-GENERAL REPORTS

The filing date of the 12-Day Pre-General Report required by the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended, is Thursday, October 24, 1996. The mailing date for the aforementioned report is Monday, October 21, 1996, if postmarked by registered or certified mail. If this report is transmitted in any other manner it must be received by the filing date. All principal campaign committees supporting Senate candidates in the 1996 races must file their reports with the Senate Office of Public Records, 232 Hart Building, Washington, DC 20510-7116. Senators may wish to advise their campaign committee personnel of this requirement.

The Public Records Office will be open from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. on Thursday, October 24, to receive these filings. For further information, please contact the Office of Public Records on (202) 224-0322.

## THIRTY-DAY POST-GENERAL REPORTS

The mailing and filing date of the 30-Day Post-General Report required by the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended, is Thursday, December 5, 1996. All principal campaign committee supporting Senate candidates in the 1996 races must file their reports with the Senate Office of Public Records, 232 Hart Building, Washington, DC 20510-7116. Senators may wish to advise their campaign committee personnel of this requirement.

The Public Records Office will be open from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. on December 5, to receive these filings. For further information, please contact the Office of Public Records on (202) 224-0322.

## FORTY-EIGHT-HOUR NOTIFICATIONS

The Office of Public Records will be open on three successive Saturdays and Sundays from 12 noon until 4 p.m. for the purpose of accepting 48-hour notifications of contributions required by